

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-14 ISO-00 EB-11 AID-20 AF-10

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FM USMISSION USUN NEWYORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4732

INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION GENEVA

USINT ALGIERS

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 2464

VIENNA FOR UNIDO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AORG, APER, UNIDO, AG (YAKER, LAYACHI)

SUBJ: UNIDO - ALGERIAN CANDIDATE FOR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

REF: VIENNA 6163; USUN 2412 (NOTAL)

1. WE HAVE STILL NOT BEEN ABLE TO CONFIRM YAKER CANDIDACY FOR UNIDO EXECUTIVE DIRECTORSHIP. ALGERIAN MISOFF CLAIMED IGNORANCE OF THIS POSSIBILITY ALTHOUGH HE DID SAY THAT MINISTERIAL SHUFFLE WAS IN THE WORKS.

2. WHILE USUN WOULD DEFER TO VIEWS USINT ALGIERS ON WHETHER YAKER WOULD MAKE GOOD EXDIR, MISOFF WHO HAD SERVED IN ALGERIA RECENTLY SEES SOME PROBLEMS AND WISHES SET FORTH HIS PERSONAL VIEWS. YAKER IS HIGHLY COMPETENT AND SKILLED BUREAUCRAT. TECHNICALLY HE IS STILL PART OF FOREIGN MINISTRY WHETHER HE WAS DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS BEFORE BEING NAMED MINISTER OF COMMERCE. HE IS SMOOTH, ALOOF AND RATHER OILY AND IS GENERALLY DISLIKED BY HIS COLLEAGUES. HIS MINISTRY IS ONE OF LEAST SUCCESSFUL IN THE MINISTERIAL SPECTRUM. HE HIMSELF HAS DEVOTED ABOUT 80 PERCENT OF HIS TIME
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TO ATTEMPTING TO MAKE WORK AN ELABORATE SET OF BILATERAL

AGREEMENTS WITH SOVIETS AND EASTERN EUROPEANS BUT WITH LESS THATN NOTABLE SUCCESS. HIS EFFORTS TOWARDS THE EAST SEEMED NOT MUCH IN INTEREST OF ALGERIAN ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT. WHAT IS NOT KNOWN IS WHETHER THIS REPRESENTS HIS OWN PENCHANT OR WHETHER HE WAS OBLIGED TO COMPLY WITH GOVERNMENT POLICY.

3. AS UNIDO EXDIR YAKER MIGHT PROVE FAR MORE COMPETENT THAT FERNANDINI. AT SAME TIME WE SUSPECT HE WOULD FOLLOW RELIGIOUSLY ALGERIAN GUIDELIJES IN POLICIES FAVORED BY MORE EXTREME THIRD WORLD UN MEMBERS. ON SUCH MATTERS WE WOULD GET LITTLE AID AND COMFORT FROM HIM. CHOICE THEN BECOMES ONE BETWEEN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS COMPETENT BUT UNCOOPERATIVE ON RANGE OF ISSUES AND ONE WHO IS LESS ENDOWED WITH MANAGERIAL SKILL BUT SOMEWHAT MORE RECEPTIVE TO US VIEWS AND PRESSURES.
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